

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

JOJI GEORGE
2555 Old Trevoise Road, Apt B6
Feasterville, PA 19053

Plaintiff,

v.

SELECT REHABILITATION INC.
550 Frontage Road, Ste. 2415
Northfield, IL 60093

COLLECTIVE ACTION

No. _____

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

COLLECTIVE CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff, Joji George (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff"), by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby avers as follows as follows on behalf of himself and all persons similarly situated in the State of Pennsylvania.

I. Introduction

1. Plaintiff has initiated this collective action to redress violations by Defendant of the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA - 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et. seq.*). As a direct consequence of Defendant's unlawful actions, Plaintiffs seek damages as set forth herein.

II. Jurisdiction and Venue

2. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because the claims arise under the laws of the United States.

3. This Court may properly maintain personal jurisdiction over Defendant because its contacts with this State and this judicial district are sufficient for the exercise of jurisdiction in order to comply with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice, satisfying the

standard set forth by the United States Supreme Court in International Shoe Co. v. Washington, 326 U.S. 310 (1945) and its progeny.

4. Venue is properly laid in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)(1) and (b)(2), because Defendant resides in and/or conduct business in this judicial district and because a substantial part of the acts and/or omissions giving rise to the claims set forth herein occurred in this judicial district.

III. Parties

5. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein in their entirety as if set forth in full.

6. Plaintiff is an adult individual with an address as set forth above.

7. Defendant Select Rehabilitation Inc. (hereinafter "Defendant") is a company that employs over 500 employees nationwide and provides W-2 employees to facilities around the country who perform physical therapy and other related services.

8. At all times relevant herein, Defendant acted by and through its agents, servants, and employees, each of whom acted at all times relevant herein in the course and scope of their employment with and for the benefit of Defendant.

IV. Factual Background

9. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

10. Plaintiff performed physical therapy services for Defendant in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

11. Plaintiff was considered a W-2 employee of Defendant.

12. Plaintiff brings the instant collective action on behalf of all similarly situated employees who performed physical therapy services within Pennsylvania for Defendant.

13. Plaintiff rotated between 2 buildings working for Defendant, and he was paid hourly by Defendant.

14. Plaintiff averaged working 50-65 hours per week for Defendant.

15. Plaintiff regularly worked for Defendant on weekends, and he was only paid at a slightly higher pay rate for working on weekends, but he was not paid for overtime at a rate of time and one half when he worked overtime on weekends.

16. Upon information and belief, this is a company-wide practice by Defendant for employees similarly situated to Plaintiff.

17. Even though Plaintiff was paid at slightly different pay rates and was assigned by Defendant to work in 2 separate buildings at time, he was always paid his compensation in a single paycheck.

18. Defendant directed, oversaw, and managed Plaintiff as to all hours he worked at any location and was responsible for overseeing his compensation for all hours worked.

19. For any work on weekends, Plaintiff was paid by Defendant at a pay rate of \$55.00 per hour, and he never received time and one half for each hour worked over 40 hours during the workweek.

20. Rather, Plaintiff was paid at his hourly rate for weekend work regardless of how many overtime hours he worked during the week, also known as being paid only "straight time."

21. Upon information and belief, Defendant unlawfully pays Plaintiff and similarly situated employees in the aforesaid manner without paying proper compensation for hours worked beyond forty (40) hours per week.

22. As a result of Defendant's illegal actions, Plaintiff and similarly situated employees have suffered damages in the form of lost / unpaid wages.

Count I
Violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA")
(Improper Pay / Failure to Pay Overtime Wages)
[On Behalf of All Similarly Situated Employees to Plaintiff within Pennsylvania]

23. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

24. At all times relevant herein, Defendant is, and continues to be, an "employer" within the meaning of the FLSA.

25. At all times relevant herein, Plaintiff and similarly situated employees were employed by Defendant as "employees" within the meaning of the FLSA.

26. The FLSA requires covered employers, such as Defendant, to minimally compensate its "non-exempt" employees, such as Plaintiff or similarly situated therapists, 1.5 times the employee's regular rate of pay for each hour that the employee works over 40 in a workweek.

27. At all times during his employment with Defendants, Plaintiff was a "non-exempt" employee within the meaning of the FLSA.

28. Defendants knew that Plaintiff was a "non-exempt" employee within the meaning of the FLSA.

29. Defendant failed to pay Plaintiffs 1.5 times Plaintiff's regular rate of pay for each hour that he worked over 40 each workweek as well as for similarly situated employees.

30. As a result of Defendant's failure to pay Plaintiff the overtime compensation due him, Defendant violated the FLSA, causing Plaintiff to suffer damages in the form of unpaid overtime compensation.

Count II
Violations of the Pennsylvania Minimum Wage Act
(Improper Pay / Failure to Pay Overtime Wages)

31. The foregoing paragraphs are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

32. Defendant's actions as aforesaid also constitute violations of the Pennsylvania Minimum Wage Act.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this Court enter an Order providing that:

A. Defendant is to be prohibited from continuing to maintain its illegal policy, practice or custom of unlawfully paying employees and are to be ordered to promulgate an effective policy against such unlawful acts and to adhere thereto;

B. Defendant is to compensate Plaintiffs, reimburse Plaintiffs and make Plaintiffs Whole for any and all pay and benefits Plaintiffs would have received had it not been for Defendant's illegal actions, including but not limited to past lost earnings and any other owed compensation. Plaintiff should be accorded those benefits illegally withheld from the date he first suffered legal violations at the hands of Defendants until the date of verdict;

C. Plaintiff is to be awarded liquidated damages, as permitted by applicable law, in an amount determined by the Court or trier of fact to be appropriate to punish Defendants for their willful, deliberate, malicious and outrageous conduct and to deter Defendants or other employers from engaging in such misconduct in the future;

D. Plaintiff is to be accorded any and all other equitable and legal relief as the Court deems just, proper and appropriate;

E. Plaintiff is to be awarded the costs and expenses of this action and reasonable legal fees as provided by applicable federal and state law;

F. Any verdict in favor of Plaintiff is to be molded by the Court to maximize the financial recovery available to the Plaintiffs in light of the caps on certain damages set forth in applicable federal law; and

G. Plaintiff's claims are to receive trial by jury to the extent allowed by applicable law. Plaintiff has also endorsed this demand on the caption of this Complaint in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38(b).

Respectfully submitted,

KARPF, KARPF & CERUTTI, P.C.

By: 

Ari Karpf
3331 Street Road
Two Greenwood Square
Suite 128
Bensalem, PA 19020
(215) 639-0801

Dated: February 24, 2012

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Joji George

CIVIL ACTION

v.
Select Rehabilitation Inc.

NO.

In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a Case Management Track Designation Form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.

SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:

- (a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255. ()
- (b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits. ()
- (c) Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. ()
- (d) Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos. ()
- (e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.) ()
- (f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks. (X)

<u>2/24/2012</u>	<u>Ari R. Karpf</u>	<u>Plaintiff</u>
Date	Attorney-at-law	Attorney for
<u>(215) 639-0801</u>	<u>(215) 639-4970</u>	<u>akarpf@karpf-law.com</u>
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Address

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar.

Address of Plaintiff: 2555 Old Trevose Rd, Apt B10, Feasterville PA 19053
 Address of Defendant: 550 Frontage Rd, Ste 245 Northfield IL 60073
 Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Defendants place of business
 (Use Reverse Side For Additional Space)

Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock?

(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a))

Yes ☐ No ☒

Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?

Yes ☐ No ☒

RELATED CASE, IF ANY:

Case Number: _____ Judge: _____ Date Terminated: _____

Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:

1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?
Yes ☐ No ☐
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?
Yes ☐ No ☐
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?
Yes ☐ No ☐
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights case filed by the same individual?
Yes ☐ No ☐

CIVIL: (Place ☒ in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)

A. Federal Question Cases:

1. ☐ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts
2. ☐ FELA
3. ☐ Jones Act-Personal Injury
4. ☐ Antitrust
5. ☐ Patent
6. ☒ Labor-Management Relations
7. ☐ Civil Rights
8. ☐ Habeas Corpus
9. ☐ Securities Act(s) Cases
10. ☐ Social Security Review Cases
11. ☐ All other Federal Question Cases
(Please specify)

B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:

1. ☐ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
2. ☐ Airplane Personal Injury
3. ☐ Assault, Defamation
4. ☐ Marine Personal Injury
5. ☐ Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. ☐ Other Personal Injury (Please specify)
7. ☐ Products Liability
8. ☐ Products Liability — Asbestos
9. ☐ All other Diversity Cases
(Please specify)

ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION

(Check Appropriate Category)

I, Ari R. Karpf, counsel of record do hereby certify:

- ☐ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;
- ☐ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.

DATE: 2/24/2012

Attorney-at-Law

ARK2484

Attorney I.D.# 91538

NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.

I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.

DATE: 2/24/2012

Attorney-at-Law

ARK2484

Attorney I.D.# 91538

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

GEORGE, JOJI

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Bucks

(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, Telephone Number and Email Address)

Karpf, Karpf & Cerutti, P.C., 3331 Street Road, Two
Greenwood Square, Suite 128, Bensalem, PA 19020
(215) 639-0801, akarpf@karpf-law.com

DEFENDANTS

SELECT REHABILITATION INC.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Cook

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
- ☒ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
- ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant
- ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- | | PTF | DEF | | PTF | DEF |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane | <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice | <input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 | <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine | <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug | <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 | <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act | <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander | <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 | <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights | <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument | <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud | <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws | <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent | <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment | <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine | <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending | <input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck | <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark | <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act | <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage | <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs. | | <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) | <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle | <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health | | <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability | | <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other | | <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits | <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act | <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) | <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) | <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act | <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) | <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act | <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI | <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation | <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting | <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence | <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation | <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) | <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure | <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment | <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General | <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act | <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) | <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment | <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations | <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty | | <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 | <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land | <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare | <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other | <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application | | <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability | <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment | <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee | | <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property | <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other | <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition | <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions | | <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes |

V. ORIGIN

(Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☒ 1 Original Proceeding
- ☐ 2 Removed from State Court
- ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court
- ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened
- ☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify)
- ☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation
- ☐ 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing. (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

Fair Labor Standards Act "FLSA" (29USC201)

Brief description of cause:

Violations of the FLSA.

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☒ Yes ☐ No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S)

(See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

Explanation:
2/24/2012
DATE

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD